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CONTENTS.

,	PAGE.
Editorials, · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	115
OUR ENGLISH LETTER,-by Edward J. Nankivell, -	117
THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF SWITZERLAND,-by P. Miraband and	A.
De Reuterskiöld,	123
THE SECOND EXHIBITION HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SE	C-
TION ON PHILATELY OF THE BROOKLYN INSTITUTE OF AR	TS
AND SCIENCES, MARCH 3rd-10th, 1500, -	128
REMAINDERS OF TOBAGO AND TRINIDAD STAMPS, -	131
THE MARKET,	132
Notes,	134
CHRONICLE,	140
STATEN ISLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY,	147
BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY,	147
THE COLLECTORS CLUB,	148





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De La Rue IN the January number of the Monthly Journal we find a comprehensive history of the discovery of the re-Remainders. mainders of unused English Colonial stamps, by Charles J. Phillips and, although we doubt the accuracy of some of the figures given, the article forms one of the most valuable contributions, that has been made, in some time, to contemporaneous stamp history. A part of the stamps covered by the article are the Perkins Bacon & Co. printings, which have been dribbling on the market for eight or nine years, whereas another part concerns itself with the De La Rue printings, which have recently appeared in more or less large quantities. Mr. Phillips concludes that a large part of these remainders consists of stamps which were prepared for sale but never placed in use and, while we agree with his classification, we cannot agree with the policy which he has adopted in compiling the last edition of Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue of Stamps of the British Empire. In view of the fact that some of the varieties referred to were never, as far as known, placed in use, he has excluded them entirely from the catalogue and has simply mentioned them in footnotes referring to the fact that specimens are known. While this proceeding may be fully justified in the case of such stamps as Barbados, 1859, 6d rose imperf., Ceylon, Star watermark, perf., 1sh 9d green and a few others of this class, we do not consider it proper to exclude from the catalogues such stamps as British Columbia and various others which have been known for twenty-five or thirty years, and specimens of which have been obtained from other sources than those which have been recently opened. In fact there is no proof that some of the stamps were never in use, and we notice that one of our contemporaries refers to the fact that in a previous edition of Gibbons' Catalogue prices were given for the British Columbia 10c and \$1, in used condition, which, in consideration of Gibbons' general policy, would tend to prove that they have had these stamps in stock in used condition; this would dispose of the theory of their being unissued varieties. It has frequently been admitted that in our pursuit we cannot always be strictly logical, and unless there is a good and sufficient reason for such action, we do not consider it advisable to bar from its regular place in the catalogue a stamp which has been recognized for a great many years and which collectors have treasured as a valuable and desirable possession.

We do not pretent to defend this position on scientific grounds, but we think the majority of collectors will agree with us in this view and will deprecate the policy which has been adopted by our English friends.

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The auction sale held on March 28, 20 and 30, under Auction Sales our auspices, which included a magnificent collection of a New York amateur and which was especially rich in great ravities, has again demonstrated that good material in fine condition will, at present, realize far more than would have been the case at any time within the last two or three years. In the short extract of prices realized, which is furnished in another portion of this journal, it will be seen that the rare stamps were sold at extremely satisfactory figures, and that, where their condition was immaculate, the prices were well up to the maximum retail figures. This sale has again demonstrated that collectors are, at present, far more ready to invest their money in choice material than was the case for some time past, and that the market for stamps in general has broadened to a considerable extent. While the younger collector has not been in evidence to as great an extent as last season, there has been a considerable increase in the collectors of a higher grade, who are ready to invest their money in the articles of paper which form the subject of our hobby.



Our English Letter.

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

London, 31, March, 1900.

Business, which has been exceptionally dull in the stamp trade, has, during the last week or so, been a little more active with a few dealers; but the majority have to plod along in sure and certain hope of the coming boom after the war is all over. There was every promise of a good winter trade till the war absorbed attention, and stamp collecting had then to take a back seat. I question whether stamp dealers in this country have ever had so much to complain of, in the slackness of business, even in the period which followed the West Indian slump, or in any of the great years of general depression of trade, as they have just now.

Still, there is a buoyant spirit abroad, for, what with the turn of the tide for the British arms in South Africa, and the certainty that the two states will be incorporated into the British Empire at the no distant close of the war, coupled with the fillip that will be given to South Africans by the issue of such epoch making novelties as the new stamps for the new colonies, there is a firm belief in an exceptionally lively revival of stamp collecting.

So far as they are able, dealers are replenishing their stocks of both the Transvaal and the Orange Free State, but the stocks are very low. Gibbons has, I believe, scoured the continent for stock, and he has certainly been able to make up a splendid book of Transvaals, though, I am told, he has had to pay big prices for what he got. Great rarities, such as wide roulettes and inverted surcharges are few and very far between in the new stock. Most stamps have been considerably increased in price; some unused have been doubled and even trebled.

Talking about Continental gathering grounds, I am reminded that prices on the continent are very much stiffer than they are with us. A London dealer assured me a few days ago that he found it impossible to buy from a leading German dealer (who had called on him) and sell at London prices. And the German dealer would not abate his figures, for the very good reason that he could get those prices at home. So that it would seem our price level is now ranging considerably below that of the continent. This sort of thing, however, rectifies itself in good time.

Still, there is a great deal of heart burning over the question of prices. The new Gibbons catalogue for 1900 is anathematised right and left. All ound, prices have been chopped about in the most extraordinary way. Some things, for which stamp collectors in the past few years have paid Gibbons fortunes, are even pithforked ruthlessly out of the catalogue as no longer worthy of being considered postage stamps. Hence, there is a mighty howl of execration. All this sort of thing works incalculable harm to the interests of stamp collecting. It is, however, the natural result of the stupid inflation of prices that took place some years since, and must be allowed its own time to settle down.

Meanwhile, the catalogue question is becoming the question of the hour. Since the day that I read a paper, harmlessly advocating a collector's unpriced catalogue, at the London Philatelic Society, it has not slept. I was attacked right and left for the absurdity of my proposal. Dealers and collectors alike are beginning to realize that they are the shuttlecocks of one catalogue publisher; that they want not only a collector's catalogue, but a collector's priced catalogue. They say Gibbons does this, and Gibbons does that, and where are we? But Gibbons does nothing but put a price upon his own goods, and surely every man has a perfect right to do that,

The whole question is now focussing itself into a choice between a general priced catalogue, issued by the combined trade, or a collector's guide to values. Mr. Oldfield, a prominent member of the council of the premier society, in this month's *Philatelic Record*, goes deeply into the matter, examines the pros and cons, and strongly advocates a collector's catalogue guide to values. He brushes aside the objections as to pricing other people's goods, and the fact that no collector's catalogue can have the necessary basis of stock to be sold at the prices quoted. He demands prices merely as a guide to values for collectors. And this catalogue, he contends, would eventually dominate prices and be more acceptable all round than the uncertain prices of any catalogue priced on one stock out of hundreds in the market. He believes collectors would at once accept it as their standard of value for exchange purposes and selling amongst themselves. And, eventually, its authority, if it were compiled by the leading philatelists of the country, would restore confidence, by giving more stability to values and to trade generally.

After discussing the matter with him at considerable length, I am inclined to believe that I shall have to yield my prejudice to collectors pricing, in favor of the growing importance of a more stable and more trustworthy guide to values than the present catalogues supply. The execration that one hears on all hands at the way in which things are now unsettled, without rhyme or reason, from year to year, is driving good men out of collecting, and seriously imperiling the investment of money in our hobby. Collectors do not complain of natural fluctuations, but they do curse at the way in which dealers are playing ducks and drakes with their investments, simply and solely for the diabolical purpose of cutting each other's throats. They say, if this kind of thing is to continue, the real value of stamps will disappear, and in its place we shall have utterly illusive prices. A gets a stock of one particular country of which a rival dealer B has also a decent stock, and from which he is making income. But A undersold B in a good deal, consequently B undersells A by sacrificing his stock of A's special line.

It is getting to be an old story. Of course the present upset had its origin in the absurd inflation of a few years ago, which sent prices up so high that the small dealer, with small expenses, found it delightfully easy to sell at 50 and even 75 per cent. below catalogue. And now the publishers of catalogues have taken to the diversion of cutting each others throats. Between them the collector says my investment is being seriously humbugged and jeopardised. Ergo, they are deliberately killing the goose that has been laying the golden eggs. Hence, the conviction is growing in strength that collectors will have to protect their own interests by stepping in between the angry belligerents with the publication of a "Guide to Values" that shall be a substantial and reliable Vade Mecum for collectors and dealers alike.

Our Postmaster General is off to the front to fight the foe. He is an officer in one of the yeomanry regiments going out. It is a strange event for the Postmaster General to be off on a fighting expedition; and the Duke of Norfolk is by no means a very flighty young man who might be forgiven for succumbing to the temptation of the khaki uniform. It is said there will be no resignation but simply a devolution of postal matters upon Mr. Hanbury, in the House of Commons, until the Postmaster General returns—or intercepts a bullet. I doubt such an absurd arrangement of such an important post being either acceptable or possible.

Possibly His Grace of Norfolk is going to help the postal organisation of the new territory—when we get it, which wont be long now. Here's a clue for the imaginative to peg away at. What interesting new issues a lively young man, fresh from the nursery, could evolve out of such a grain of fact.

De la Rue's contract for printing English stamps has been renewed for ten years from January last. The Government has secured a revision of prices, under which they report considerable reductions. It will be a question of interest for philatelists how far the new contract will affect the stamps, if at all.

Up to date the only change of which we are cognisant is that the new contract has given us the larger size commercial postcard.

We had our War Fund Auction Sale on the 28th. It was a splendid success. The authorities lent us the council chamber of the St. Martin's Town Hall free for the occasion, and we filled it to overflowing. The crowd included almost everybody who is anybody in the stamp world of the metropolis and a great many from the country towns. Major Evans, Messrs. Castle, Bacon, Ehrenbach, Oldfield, Tilleard, Hausberg, and many other well known members of the London Philatelic Society were there. All the leading dealers were present, except Mr. C. J. Phillips, who is in Italy. The prices were here, there, and everywhere. Sometimes a lot would fall at bargain rates, then there would be a call to bid up, and lots were bid up in a lively, chaffing style. All helped to run the show. Some things fetched

absurd prices, run up for the fun of the business. Those who were landed were reminded of the fact by a round of applause. Banter, and chaff, and good humor, and a wholehearted desire to subscribe the estimated result of £ 1000, were the dominating characteristics of the afternoon. But there were many bargains to console those who were now and then landed with a record price. For instance the fine unused copy of the 3 lire Tuscany was knocked down for £93. It cost the owner, who presented it to the Philatelists War Fund £200. It was the one real disappointment of the occasion.

The souvenir lots went well, some exceedingly well. The set of the current Trinidad stamps, surcharged "9d"(?) in commemoration of the visit of the Duke of York to the island in 1891 fetched no less than £30. Of course there was a round of applause at the price, especially as the last bid was made by the Vice President of the Philatelic Society. Who shall say after such a record that West Indies are under a cloud. The copies of the Society's works signed by the Duke of York were sold at the following prices: British Isles, £7 each, all three copies. India and Ceylon, £5. each, three copies. But the exciting time was towards the end when it was a very open question whether we should reach the £1000. When the £900 was signalled and applauded by a round of cheers, there remained nothing like sufficient to make up the four figures. But as the end of the sale drew near one after another of the prominent philatelist present added other lots, and the sale closed with ringing cheers some few pounds above the £1000.

There were many pleasing little incidents during the sale. One gentleman recited Kipling's "Absent Minded Beggar," and of course the hat was sent around and there was gathered in from the company no less than £6. One party dropped a 20 pfennig piece into the hat. It was not a very liberal contribution, but it probably saved the giver from the odium of refraining from contributing, or it may have been dropped in for fun. Anyway, when the auctioneer caught sight of it he fished it out and held it up. There was general merriment, and, to the question what was to be done with it, some one suggested that it should be sold as a souvenir. It was immediately put up and after much chaff it was knocked down for 55 6d.

Another amusing incident was the sale of a sackfull of stamps of unknown character. It was lifted on to the table, and a lively competition started, Mr. Ehrnbach leading and being the eventual purchaser, amidst a storm of congratulations. The price was 25s. When friend Ehrenbach has sorted that lot we shall all be very anxious to know what treasures he has found. Possibly he may be able to turn the laugh by the discovery of some good stamp that will make others wish they had gone in more seriously for

that sack. But "I hae me doots," as the Scotchman said.

Part II of the London Philatelic Society's work on South Africa is promised in a month's time. I have not yet heard what the price is to be, but I should advise those who have secured Part I to lose no time in arranging for a copy of Part II, for three copies of Part I sold at the War Fund Auction

fetched 30s, 35s and 40s each. Part II is being edited by Mr. Bacon, for the Society, and will be a very important work, as it will include Mauritius and finish with Natal. It will be more than double the size of Part I in pages. But it will not complete the African Colonies, as there will be a third part. This is fortunate, for by the time Part III will be due we shall be able to round off the British possessions by the incorporation of the two Republics. It is a little curious that there should have been considerable discussion as to whether the Society should include the Transvaal in a work dealing with British Colonies but, the view that it would be impossible to omit all mention of the period of the British occupation, decided the matter in favor of the inclusion of the Transvaal, Republics and all; for it would be a very one horse sort of show to include only the period of the British occupation, thus splitting a country into parts, which would be resented by collectors. Events have since taken matters a step further, and decided that probably the Transvaal and the Orange Free State will both have to be included in Part III.

The editor of the London Philatelist has cleared out his waste of unsold back numbers in a very clever way. He has "presented" sets to various philatelic societies, at home and abroad. And the fact has been duly advertised by each Society. So that the London Philatelist has, by the judicious distribution of its waste, arranged a very satisfactory series of free advertisements. And the Societies have undoubtedly benefitted by the transaction in a fine addition to their libraries.

Mr. Henniker Heaton, who, in an unofficial capacity, looks after our Post Office, has an article in the Universal, a new monthly periodical, on an "Ideal Post Office." He suggests that, as the postal surplus is some four millions sterling per annum and is being further increased by some £300,000 per year, we should draw the line of surplus at four millions, and spend the further surplus in improvements and concessions. As it is, the Post Office is being treated as a gigantic revenue producing machine, with public convenience as a very secondary concern. He wants to establish an agricultural post, telegraph addresses free, abolish fines for insufficient postage, reduce the registration fee to a penny, and make a beginning with several other sorely needed reforms. He would like to see here the distribution of periodicals at a nominal rate, as in the United States.

This last suggestion of his will be opposed by many strong trade interests. Booksellers and news agents would immediately be up in arms, for it would seriously interfere with their business as supplying agents throughout the country. With us the distribution of books, periodicals and newspapers is in the hands of trade organizations, and for the government to practically undertake the work of distribution at a nominal rate would ruin thousands in every part of the country. Therefore, it is not likely to be adopted.

A difference of paper has been noted in the late; t printings of the New South Wales stamps. Instead of the ordinary wove, unsurfaced, paper the postal authorities seem now to be trying a chalky-surfaced paper, very

often used by printers for getting clearer impressions. But I question whether the difference will be sufficiently marked to lead to a philatelic distinction, even by specialists, between the two sorts of paper. The surest test is not so much a comparison of surface or texture, as the marking of a clean margin with a silver coin. On the ordinary paper the silver makes scarcely any mark; but on the surfaced paper it will leave a clear, distinct pencil line.

But probably a distinction between the papers will be sufficiently marked by the difference of shade apparent in the printings on the two papers. I have only seen the 2d. and 6d. so far. The 2d. is a much paler and brighter shade, and the 6d. a deeper orange.

Talking about New South Wales, I may throw out the hint that unused copies of Die I. of the 1d. current type, are worth looking for. It exists perf. 12, 12 compounded with 11½, and perf. 12 compounded with 11. Under none of these perfs. does Gibbons price Die I. of the 1d. value unused. Die I. may be easily distinguished by the misshapen character of the first pearl on the crown. The circle of the pearl is incomplete and open at the bottom. The difference will be noted at once by comparing the pearl to the extreme left and the pearl to the extreme right of the crown. On the right, the pearl is a complete circle; on the left, in the misshapen pearl of Die I, the circle is barely half completed, and is quite open at the bottom. I have no idea what is being asked for an unused copy, but probably shall be able to say later.

The local printings of the New Zealands are coming out very slowly. They seem to be in no particular hurry to print from the picture series of plates. Report says they are waiting for watermarked paper. If that be so, then the present printings on unwatermarked paper will be worth preserving, especially unused. So far, I have seen local printings of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ d, 5d, 6d, 8d, 9d, 2s and 5s. They are all perf. 11; a perf. that does not exist in the Waterlow printings. Meanwhile, the old types, all perf. 11, are being used plentifully, but the shades vary from former printings.

Strange to say, the London printings of the picture series are getting somewhat scarce. Why they should be so it is difficult to explain, except on one basis, viz., that they are being snapped up and hoarded by speculators They were surely printed in too large numbers to be ever scarce, either used or unused. I am of the opinion that there are plentiful supplies—somewhere, and that they will come out—some day.



The Postage Stamps of Switzerland.

By P. MIRABAUD and A. DE REUTERSKIÖLD.

This work, the most expensive that has ever been published on the subject of postage stamps, appears to have now been placed on the market, although we have not, as yet, received the copies ordered by us. We are therefore prevented, for the present, from drawing our own conclusions as to its merits, and are dependent upon reviews of it published by our European contemporaries. The Monthly Journal has an exhaustive criticism of the work, and we have no fear of tiring our readers by publishing it in extenso as follows:

THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF SWITZERLAND.*

We have before us the most beautiful book that has ever yet been produced on the subject of the stamps of any country, a veritable édition de luxe, printed upon thick hand-made vellum paper, with wide margins and the deckle edges intact, such as any book-lover would delight in, even if he were not a Philatelist, and illustrated with absolute fac-similes, both in type and also in color, of all the cantonal issues and of the early stamps of the Federal Administration of Switzerland. Such a thing has never been attempted before, and from what we have learnt of the enormous cost of the present work (we believe that some £2,000 was expended in producing the illustrations), we fear that it will be a long time before anything of the kind will be attempted again. Colored illustrations of stamps we have met with, of course, printed from the blocks ordinarily used for illustrating our magazines and catalogues, but in this case we have, we might almost say, the stamps themselves, so exact are the imitations given in this book; in fact, if it were not that they are printed upon paper that will at once distinguish them from the originals, these i lustrations would be very dangerous forgeries, and it is with a feeling of relief that we learn that the plates have been destroyed, and that there is therefore no chance of their ever falling into dishonest hands.

This is not a book to be criticised, but rather to be thankful for. We will endeavor to give our readers some idea of its contents, and if in so doing we indicate one or two little points which seem to us to require further elucidation, we do so in no carping spirit, but more to show its authors that we have read their book, and not merely looked at the pictures. The preface deals first, very briefly, with the origin of postage stamps and of stamp collecting, and the advantages to be derived from the latter, and goes on to give us some very interesting details relating to the organization of the Swiss Cantons and of the Federal Administration which finally took over the postal service throughout the Republic. The varieties of coinage in use in different Cantons presented some obstacle to the adoption of uniform postal rates. In Geneva, we are told, the French system of francs and centimes was employed, but the copper coins were 1, 4, 10, and 25 centimes respectively. At Zurich a florin. equal to 2fr. 29c., was the unit, and was divided into 40 shillings, each of the value of 4 rappen; the 4rp. stamp was thus worth about 534

*The Samps of Switzerland, 1843-1862. By P. MIRABAUD and A. DE REUTERSKIÖLD Paris: Librairies-Imprimeries Réunis, Motteroz, Directeur, 2, rue Mignon.

centimes, and the 6rp. about 8½ centimes. Basle again had a franc, but this was a Swiss franc, equivalent to 1fr. 43c. French; it was divided into 10 batzen, or 100 rappen. The smallest coin appears to have been of the same value as that of Zurich, but for all that it is evident that business transactions between different Cantons must have involved a good deal of very complicated arithmetic. In 1850 the French system was extended by law to the whole of Switzerland, but the law did not actually come into force until January 1st, 1852; and the authorities then retained the use of the word rappen, but as an equivalent to centime, so that from the issue of 1852 the rappen expressed

quite a different value from that which it had before.

The body of the work is divided into four parts, treating of (1) The Cantonal Stamps; (2) The "Transitional Stamps," issued after the Confed ration assumed the control of the Post Office, and before the Federal stamps were ready; (3) The Federal Stamps themselves; (4) The obliterations to be found upon all the above stamps. Part I. is headed by a beautiful plate, giving illustrations of the five types of each value of Zurich, the various types of Geneva, the Basle stamp, and those formerly known as the issues of Vaud, Winterthur, and Neuchâtel which come under Part II. The Cantons are then dealt with in the order in which their stamps first appeared, and in each case, as also in Parts II. and III., not only are all the varieties fully described, but the history of their issue is also given, so far as it could be ascertained, accompanied by translations of the official documents upon which it is founded, and postal notices as to rates, distances, etc, which show the object of the different values and of the various changes which took place. Full references are given to, we believe, every book or article of any importance that has been published on the stamps of Switzerland, and a very complete bibliography of these books and articles is given at the end of the work. But in this connection we have a little criticism to offer; in such a work as that before us considerable quotation would have been admissible, so as to render it complete in itself. References should be given of course, but it should not be necessary to refer elsewhere for any important details. We have an instance under Zurich, where the retouching, or touching up, of one of the transfers on the stone is very briefly alluded to, and reference is made to Mr. Castle's paper on the subject in The London Philatelist, January, 1897. The retouched type, in its different varieties, should, we think, have been described in full, and we would gladly have seen enlarged illustrations of it, like the admirable ones given of a variety of the 2 1/2 rp. " POSTE LOCALE,"

With Geneva is given a most wonderful plate, showing part of a sheet of the 5c. "Large Eagle," with the marginal inscription at the top. The reproduction is so exact in every way that one can hardly believe that it is not really a portion of a sheet of stamps mounted on thick paper. In connection with this stamp there was published, in Le Timbre-Poste for January, a short article, of which Mr. Duerst has sent us a translation that will be found on another page, describing some varieties of type which have been recently discovered. The variation appears to be minute, consisting of a kind of a "slip of the pen," or a cidental line in the design, which gradually disappeared—probably by wear of the stone. This defect is not alluded to by the authors of the book, neither do they note in their description of this stamp a curious fact, viz. that the letters "I. H. S." in the Large Eagle design were evidently first drawn of comparatively large size, and that these large letters were very incompletely erased from the original stone or drawing, and smaller letters inserted. Traces of the large letters are, we believe, always

visible, though they probably varied in distinctness in different transfers, and

partially disappeared in the latest impressions.

In 1849 the Federal Administration superseded the Cantonal, as far as the Post Office was concerned, but as no Federal stamps were issued before April, 1850, the so-called "Transitional Stamps" came into use, issued by the Cantons of Geneva and Zurich, but bearing the Federal Arms. A uniform tariff for the whole country was established, with rates determined by weight and distance; thus for single rate letters within the following radii (Rayons):— (i.) 10 leagues; (ii.) 10 to 25 leagues; (iii.) 25 to 40 leagues; (iv.) beyond 40 leagues—the charges were to be 5, 10, 15, and 20 Swiss rappen respectively. There was also to be in populous centres a "Local Post," with a single rate of 2½ rappen, and it was by these local posts that the transitional stamps were

employed.

The oblong 4c. and 5c "stamps were issued by the first Postal District, comprising the Canton of Geneva and the Vaudois District of Nyon." Hence no doubt, the old idea that these stamps belonged to Vaud. We gather that 4 centimes was first adopted as the equivalent of 21/2 rappen, but that the rate was shortly raised to 5 centimes. As our readers are no doubt aware, the same stone produced both values. As originally prepared, it printed a hundred 4c stamps, all identically alike, but for the higher value the figures "4" were erased and figures "5" inserted by hand, and the figures "5" consequently differ from one another slightly in shape and position, and thus form a hundred varieties of type of that value. A beautiful illustration of these varieties is given in the book, on two plates, each showing half of the sheet of the stamps. We understand that this was reproduced from a reconstructed sheet, made up in a great part of an unused block of over seventy stamps in the collection of Baron de Reuterskiöld! There are also four plates, each showing a quarter of the sheet with the special points of difference between the varieties of type enlarged to double the actual size, by means of which single specimens can be identified by those desirous of "plating" 5c. "Vaud." This 5c. stamp and its successor the 5c. "Neuchâtel" (as it used to be called), appear to have continued in use at Geneva after the 21/2 rappen "Poste Locale" of the Federal issue came into use in the other districts.

The other transitional stamp is the oblong 2½ rappen, formerly assigned to Winterthur, which was employed for locale postage in the populous places

of the Cantons of Zurich, Zug, Schaffhausen, and Thurgau.

In connection with the first series of real Federal stamps, those of upright rectangular shape and similar design, there are some points of special interest which are, as might be supposed, very fully dealt with. The 2½ rappen, "POSTE LOCALE" and ORTS-POST," both for local use, were issued on April 5th, 1850, and the 5 rappen, "RAYON I," and 10 rappen, "RAYON II," whose use is also denoted by their inscriptions, on the first of the following October. These four stamps are alike in design and also in the fact that each exists in forty varieties of type, and that all those varieties may be found with and without a frame to the white cross in the centre. The object of this frame, and the period at which it was introduced into the design, have long been subjects of discussion. The authors of the book give an opinion upon each point, and their opinions appear to us to be very well grounded. The frame was incorrect heraldically, and therefore was not likely to have been ordered to be added to the design; at the same time, it is not so conspicuous as to have been likely to attract the attention of the Swiss authorities. MM. Mirabaud and

de Reuterskiöld find no mention whatever of this detail in the Federal archives and are therefore of opinion that it was inserted by the lithographer on account of the red ink used for the ground of the shield not giving the cross a sufficiently sharp outline, and that it was afterwards erased by him, either because it did not produce the desired effect except when the red impression was exactly in register (which was very frequently not the case), or because he became aware that it was not correct. On the other point the authors contend that the frame was not part of the original design, first, because it is not found in any of the proof impressions preserved in the archives; and, secondly, because the 5 rappen in black upon blue is always found either with no frame to the cross or with the frame practically complete; it is never found with fragments of the frame such as are seen on the 5 rappen in blue on white. This shows that the 5 rappen was first printed without the frame, that the frame was added while the stamps were still being printed in black on blue, and that the frame was erased more or less completely after the printing in blue on white commenced—very shortly after, judging from the rarity of these stamps with the frame complete, and very shortly before the last printing of the "Poste Locale" and "Orts-Post" stamps took place, as these are found, though rarely, with fragments of the frames. The great rarity of the 10 rappen with frame to the cross indicates that only a very small supply of that value was printed after the frame was added. It is presumed that the frame was drawn on all the stones at about the same time, and also removed from all of them at once, and this would no doubt have been the case. mystery of the framed cross appears to us to have at last received a satisfactory solution.

On January 1st, 1852, a very curious change took place in the postal tariff. Up to that time French francs had been in use in some of the Cantons, and Swiss francs (=1fr. 43c. French) in the others; 5 rappen were equal to 7 15 centimes, and 10 rappen to 14 3 centimes, the two stamps were sold in Geneva at 8 and 15 centimes respectively. The currency difficulty was no doubt the reason for the 5c. stamps being retained in use at Geneva for local postage instead of the 2½ rappen. From the commencement of 1852 the local posts appears to have been done away with, and three "Rayons" established, with rates for single letters of 5, 10, and 15 centimes, the French franc being made the unit of currency of the whole Republic. At the same time a new issue of stamps was to have been put in circulation but as these stamps were not ready the 5 and 10 rappen were continued in use, and were ordered to be sold at 5 and 10 centimes, or about two-thirds of their former values, and a 15 rappen (or centimes) stamp was prepared. The new value being intended for temporary use only, it was evidently thought unnecessary to make a fresh drawing for it; a transfer was therefore taken from the stone of the 21/2rp. "Orts-Post" and two vertical rows (the second and third) had the inscription altered to "RAYON III.," the figures "15" inserted in place of " 2 ½," and the cross with a background of vertical lines drawn in the shield. It is not stated whether the same identical stone which printed the 15 rp. was then altered to print the 15cts., or whether a transfer was made from the first stone and "Cts." substituted for "Rp." upon a fresh stone, but the varieties of type (except in the letters of the value) are identically the same in both. Evidently the stone was not preserved after the first printing had taken place, for when a fresh supply of this value was wanted, owing to further delay in the manufacture of the permanent issue, a fresh stone was made, this time by a transfer from the fourth and fifth vertical rows of the "Orts-Post," and the figures inserted being drawn larger than before we

thus get the second type of 15rp.

It was not until September, 1854, the new and regular issue of Federal stamps made its appearance; the new stamps were supplied to postmasters from the middle of that month, and the old stamps could not be used after October 1st. The new stamps were those with a figure of Helvetia, printed on paper with a silk thread running through each stamp, the same nature of paper that was being employed at that time for the stamps of Bavaria; and we learn that the paper and the plates for this issue were manufactured at Munich, and that the first supplies of the stamps were printed there. varieties in the color of the silk threads that may be found in stamps of the same value have given rise to a good deal of discussion, but the authors of this book are able to tell us that what really happened was this:-The earliest printings, first at Munich and afterwards at Bern, of the values up to 40c. were all on paper with emerald-green threads in it; then, from 1855 to 1859, a different color of thread was employed for each value-yellow first and black later for the 5c.; carmine for the 10c.; blue for the 15c.; green for 20c.; garnet for the 40c.; black first and yellow later for the 1 franc; lastly, from 1859 to 1862, paper with bright green threads was employed for all the values, except the highest, which continued to have the yellow thread. Errors are known, of course; papers with blue and green threads might easily get mixed if any printing was done by artificial light, or green thread may in some cases have changed to blue by this time, and we should suppose that the white, yellowish, greenish, and pinkish white threads are in all cases varieties that have lost their original color, and some of the yellow threads may have once been green.

With this issue, of which by the way no illustration appears to be given, MM. Mirabaud and de Reuterskiöld bring their history of the Swiss stamps to a close—for the present at all events. When so bountiful and so luxurious a banquet is set before us it seems ungrateful to ask for more; but we hope that its providers will take it as a testimony to the excellence of their fare when we say that we should welcome, by way of a light dessert, a supplementary volume (it need not be a very large or expensive one) bringing the history down to the end of the nineteenth century, and including an

account of the envelopes, wrappers, and post cards.

We have left ourselves no space to deal with Part IV. of the book, which treats of the obliterations employed under both the Cantonal and the Federal Administrations; it must suffice to state that this, by no means the least interesting part of the subject, has evidently received the same careful and minute attention as the other portions. No less than seven hundred and one facsimiles of obliterating marks are given, with full lists of places and dates

at which those which do not contain a name were employed.

Collectors owe a debt of gratitude to the joint authors of this magnificent book which they can hardly repay. The work bestowed upon it has been, we do not doubt, "a labor of love," but it is certain that the great expense of production will not nearly be covered by the proceeds of the sale of the limited edition that has been printed, and purchasers may rest assured that a considerable proportion of the cost has been a free gift to them.

Second Exhibition held under the Auspices of the Section on Philately of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, March 3rd—10th, 1900.

REPORT OF THE JUDGES TO THE EXHIBITION COMMITTEE.

We have, in judging the exhibits presented for competition, followed the Rules and Regulations laid down by the Exhibition Committee, particularly the following:

"No exhibitor may be awarded more than one medal, in the same class

(exclusive of Special Awards).

The Judges are to consider Condition, Rarity, Completeness and Phila-

telic Arrangement of Exhibits, each to count twenty-five per cent.

The Judges shall be at liberty to withhold any medal or special award if from insufficiency of competition, or for any other reason they shall think that same should not be awarded."

The general principle of our awards was that nothing should be given without an adequate reason for so doing. It was the desire of the judges that the awards should be made in such a manner that the excellency of exhibits should be commended by them; therefore, medals were not given in cases where there was not sufficient competition, nor was an award made unless the quality of an exhibit was sufficient to entitle the owner to a gold, silver or bronze medal as offered. The desire of the judges also was, by the awards, to bring especially to the notice of exhibiting collectors the necessity of attention to the four matters of Rarity, Condition, Completeness and Philatelic Arrangement, which formed the basis of judgment, according to the regulations of the Exhibition Committee.

There were several exhibits which would have secured awards had the same attention been paid to the condition of ordinary varieties that was given to that of rarities. There were some instances in which stamps, that were of small value and which could easily be secured, appeared in the frames in

very poor condition.

We also judged it to be for the best interests of the present as well as of future exhibitions that no awards whatever should be made in cases were exhibits were not worthy of gold, silver or bronze medals, or honorable mention. There were several instances in which medals might have been awarded on the merits of the exhibits, but the judges were prevented from making them by the rule that "no exhibitor may be awarded more than one medal in the same class (exclusive of Special Awards)."

The future exhibitions, we believed, would be safe-guarded by great discrimination and care in the making of awards at this one, and we have,

therefore, tried to do our work in the most careful manner.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCIS C. REYNOLDS. HENRY L. CALMAN. CRAWFORD CAPEN. Awards made by the Judges, Messrs. Henry L. Calman, Crawford Capen and Francis C. Reynolds, at the Second Philatelic Exhibition of the Section on Philately of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, March 3rd—10th, 1900.

Class I, Group A, one silver medal (donated by the American Philatelic Association), awarded to M. C. Berlepsch, of Kingsbridge, N. Y., for General Issues, Dues, Special Delivery, Department and Periodical Stamps of the United States.

Class I, Group B, honorable mention awarded to Geo. H. Blake of Jersey City, N. J., for the best exhibit of proprietary stamps, showing the various printed cancellations adopted by the different manufacturers.

Class I, Group C, one silver medal awarded to H. E. Deates of Flemington, N. J., for best exhibit of stamps of the Confederate States.

Class I, Group D, one silver medal awarded to J. M. Fiske of Manhattan Borough, for the best exhibit of the stamps of Cuba and Puerto Rico.

Class II, Group A, honorable mention awarded to Dr. W. J. Gascoyne of Baltimore, Md., for best exhibit of the stamps of Great Britain, Malta, Cyprus and Gibraltar.

Class II, Group C, honorable mention awarded to Dr. W. J. Gascoyne, for best exhibit of the stamps of Antigua, Barbadoes, Grenada, St. Christopher, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Nevis and Virgin Islands.

Class II, Group D, one silver medal awarded to Dr. W. J. Gascoyne, for best exhibit of stamps of British Bechuanaland, Gambia, Gold Coast, Lagos, St. Helena, Sierra Leone, Zanzibar, Zululand, Niger Coast, Seychelles, British Central Africa, British East Africa and British South Africa.

Class II, Group D, honorable mention awarded to J. M. Fiske, for exhibit of stamps of British Central Africa, British East Africa and British South Africa.

Class III, honorable mention awarded to Dr. W. J. Gascoyne, for exhibit of stamps of Uruguay, Curacao and Danish West Indies,

Class IV, Group C, one bronze medal awarded to E. R. Ackerman of Plainfield, N. J., for best exhibit of the stamps of Norway and Sweden.

Class IV, Group E, one silver medal awarded to M. H. Lombard of Boston, Mass., for best exhibit of the stamps of France and Colonies.

Class VIII (Dealers' Exhibit), honorable mention awarded to the Columbian Stamp Co., of East 23rd Street, New York, for best exhibit of the stamps of South African Republic (Transvaal).

SPECIAL AWARDS.

One Gold Medal awarded to J. M. Fiske, for the best Special Collection of any one country in the Western Hemisphere, other than the United States.

One silver medal (donated by the Staten Island Philatelic Society) awarded to A. Krassa of Manhattan Borough, for the best stamp album exhibited.

One silver medal (donated by R. R. Bogert), awarded to P. F. Bruner of Manhattan Borough, for the best exhibit of the stamps of Switzerland.

One silver medal (donated by two members of the Section on Philately),

awarded to E. R. Ackerman of Plainfield, N. J., for the best exhibit of the stamps of Norway and Sweden.

One bronze medal (donated by Alexander Holland), awarded to Mrs. Frederick A. Hoyt of the Borough of Brooklyn, for the best general collection, in album, exhibited by a lady.

One silver medal (donated by Wm. Moser), awarded to P. F. Bruner, for the best exhibit of fifty stamps, none to catalogue over \$10.

One silver medal (donated by Wm. Moser), awarded to M. H. Lombard, for best exhibit of fifty stamps, none to catalogue over \$5.

One gold medal (donated by the Scott Stamp and Coin Co., Ltd.,) awarded to M. H. Lombard of Boston, for the best exhibit of adhesive postage stamps irrespective of Class or Group.

One silver medal (donated by the American Collectors Co.,) awarded to M. H. Lombard of Boston, for the best exhibit by a collector residing outside of Greater New York.

One silver medal (donated by Geo. J. Carter), awarded to Joseph Holland of Brooklyn Borough, for the best exhibit of the stamps of Hayti.

One "Ne Plus Ultra Album," sunk mounts (donated by A. Krassa), awarded to M. C. Berlepsch of Kingsbridge, N. Y., for best exhibit in United States Postage Stamps.

One silver medal (donated by the Bogert & Durbin Co.,) awarded to John D. Miner, Jr., for best exhibit of unused stamps, illustrating varieties in shades in British Colonies. Countries exhibited being:—Lagos, Gold Coast, Natal, Sierra Leone, Zanzibar, British Bechuanaland, Seychelles, Niger Coast, Gambia, Zululand, British South Africa, British East Africa and British Central Africa.

One silver medal (donated by E. T. Parker), awarded to David S. Wells of Brooklyn Borough, for the best exhibit of the stamps of Spain and Colonies.

One silver medal (donated by J. W. Scott), awardad to J. M. Fiske, for the best exhibit of the stamps of Denmark, Iceland and the Danish West Indies.



Remainders of Tobago and Trinidad Stamps.

In the February number of the London Philatelist we find an advertisement of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, offering for sale a large quantity of remainders of obsolete Tobago adhesives and envelopes and Tobago and Trinidad postal cards. The list is as follows:

TOBAGO POSTAGE STAMPS AND REVENUE STAMPS.

Watermarked C. A. and Crown.

½d	10,927	Postage	Green £22.15.	3 1/2
ıd	2,833	66	Rose 11.16,	
2 1/2 d	6,989	66	Blue 72.16.	01/2
4d	4.775	6.5	Grey 79.11.	
6d	3,941	6.6	Orange 98.10.	
Ish	7,553	££	Ochre 377 13.	
ıd	1,924	Revenue	Purple 8. o.	
3d	7,184	4.6	" and black duty tablet 89.16.	
4d	7,800	64	" red " " 130. o.	
6d	847	£6	" " blue " " 21. 3.	6
Ish	4,073	66	Green 203.13.	
5sh	6,400	4.4	Grey 1,600. o.	
£I	5,434	46	Violet 5,434. o.	

TOBAGO POST CARDS AND ENVELOPES.

1/2 d	1,082	Single	Post	Cards	2, 5, I
1/2 d	2,902	Reply	16	61	12, 1.10
ıd	1,128	Single	46	66	4.14. 0
rd	3,247	Reply	6.8	16	27. 1. 2
1 1/2 d	3,880	Single	66	44	24. 5. 0
2d	9,489	Registe	ered !	Envelopes	79. 1. 6

TRINIDAD POST CARDS.

1 1/2 d	9,144	Single	Post	Cards	57. 3. 0 42. 8. 0
	6,144	Reply	6.5	66	76.16. 0
2d	2,430	8.6	4.6	68	40.10. 0

We have no doubt that the Crown Agents will be successful in disposing of the stamps of low values, but it will be a long time before they will dispose of the quantities on hand of the high values and of the revenue stamps.

The Market.

150th SALE OF THE SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO,, L'T'D.,

March 28, 29 and 30, 1900.

PRICES REALIZED FOR SOME OF THE LOTS.

Providence: entire sheet, eleven 5c and one 10c, o. g. \$48 St. Louis: gray lilac paper, 10c black, type III, cut close at top and	00
only small margins on other sides, unused,	00
 pelure paper: 10c black, type I, on original cover, has slight crease from folding, otherwise fine, pen cancelled, 	00
- pelure paper, 10c black, type II, on original cover, outer line at right partly cut away, fine margins on other sides, very lightly	
- pelure paper, 10c black, type III, on original cover, has crease from	00
folding, otherwise fine, pen cancelled, — pelure, 10c black, type III, small piece of outer line missing at one	00
corner, otherwise good, cancelled, 380	00
United States: 1861: 3c scarlet, no perfs. at right and a few clipped at bottom, otherwise fine, unused,	00
 1869: 15c brown and blue, with inverted medallion, strong color, very fine, cancelled, 	50
- 1869: 24c green and purple, with inverted medallion, not very well	
centered, but fine, lightly cancelled, 130 1869: 30c blue and carmine, flags inverted, has lost a perf. from	00
right margin, rather light color, otherwise fine, cancelled, - Navy: 2c green, error, three perfs. broken, otherwise very fine, un-	00
used, 28 Barbados: 1878: ½p on halves of 5sh, unsevered pair, reading down-	00
ward, the figures "1" have slanting serif, one has a slight tear at the edge, but it does not injure the appearance of the stamp,	
otherwise fine, cancelled,	00
Brazil: 1844-46: 60or black, very fine copy with extra wide margins on two sides, cancelled, 28	25
British Guiana: 1850: 12c black on thick dark blue paper, a trifle cut into at bottom, otherwise brilliant copy, lightly cancelled,	
- 1856: 4c light magenta, has been torn in two and very neatly re-	00
joined, fine margins, lightly cancelled, — 1856; 4c dark magenta, has good margins on three sides, has slight	00
crease, but otherwise in fine condition, lightly cancelled, 102 1862: provisional issue: ac black on rose, unsevered imperf. strip of	50
four, two of type 6, one of type 7, one of type 8; unsigned,	00
- 1862: provisional issue: 2c yellow, type 6, very fine copy, showing	
roulettes on three sides, cancelled, 1862: provisional issue: 4c blue, type 10, small margins, but fine,	50
	00
	00
	00

Canada: 1851: laid paper: 12p black, has two pin holes and two tears, but nothing gone except small piece of the frame line, can-	
celled, Cape of Good Hope: 1861: wood block: 1p blue, error, no margins, so	
lightly cancelled as to appear almost unused, — 1861: wood block: 4p red, error, no margins, otherwise fine, can-	
celled, Colombian Republic: 1863: 20c and 50c red, vertical strip of three, the middle stamp being the error 50c, probably unique in this	
Gold Coast: 1884-91: Crown and C. A.: 1p blue, very small thin spot,	00
Guadeloupe: unpaid letter stamp: 1878-79: 40c blue, on very small	50
7 1 6 6 11	00
	50
Mauritius: 1848: bluish paper: 1p red, early state of plate, very fine,	00
- 1858: 1p scarlet, vertical pair, with enormous margins, very fine,	00
- 1858: 1p scarlet, pair and single copy, on original cover, bright	00
— 1876: red surcharge: ½p on 9p lilac, wide margin at left and perfs.	50
	00
Natal: 1857: 6p green, extra wide margins, has small crease and two	00
	00
Nevis: 1879: lithographed: 4p yellow (No. 3 in plate), fine, unused, 36—1879: lithographed: 6p olive grey (No. 2 in plate), very fine, part	00
o. g.,	50
New South Wales: 1850: 3p myrtle green, on yellowish wove paper, very fine, cancelled,	00
Prince Edward Island: 1861: 2p rose, rouletted, small ink spot on face	50
Reunion: 1852: 15c black on gray blue, slightly soiled near lower edge, but apparently unused,	
— 1852: 30c black on gray blue, small piece restored near the upper left corner, stained by gum, but apparently unused, fine,	50
Roumania: 1858: 27pa rose, small piece torn from one corner before the stamp was used, otherwise very fine, extra wide margins,	5
- 1858: 108 pa blue on rose, wide margins at sides, but thin on back,	00
	00
	50
	00
The 539 lots offered on the first night sold for the sum of \$8,847	
thus establishing a record of the largest amount ever realized at a sinnight's sale.	



UNITED STATES.—In our March number, we referred to certain surcharges on United States stamps reported by the Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal. We have since discovered that our contemporary has been led astray by specimens of the regular postage stamps, cancelled in sheets in advance for the benefit of publishers and business houses who mail large quantities of pamphlets.

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Dr. W. C. Bowers has shown us a new Local stamp, on a piece of the original letter, which was presented to him by a personal friend. The appearance of the stamp is in its favor, but we shall withold our recognition until we are able to obtain some further information.

Only a few letters of the post mark are visible on the piece of the letter which has been preserved, but at some later date we may be able to supply the missing link. The stamp is in an oblong rectangle, with a star at each corner and the following inscription in an ellipse:—"Kellogg's—Penny Post—&—City Despatch."

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AUSTRIAN POST OFFICES IN THE LEVANT,—One of our contemporaries announces the appearance of the new set surcharged for use in the Levant. We shall withhold our chronicle until we have seen a complete list of the values.

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COREA.—We illustrate the two stamps which we chronicled in our March number.





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CRETE.—We copy the following from the Monthly Journal:

"We are indebted to Dr. Socolis for a translation of some official notices relating to the Retymno stamps, about which various contradictory statements have been made. These notices were published in a book (or Gazette?) entitled Daily Orders of the Department of Retymno, and the extracts sent us are as follows:

' Daily Order No. 166, Town of Retymno, June 30, 1899.

'§2. On the date of the installation of the provisional Post Office for the interior of the Department of Retymno (1-13 May 1899), there being no lithographer in Retymno, we had three dies made for the manufacture by hand of the postage stamps required.

'According to the official report of the military officer in charge of the

Post Office, the following stamps were thus made:

1 metallik, green, 10,440 1 " blue, 4,800 2 " rose, 1,200 2 " black, 12,965

'There were sold to the public:

1 metallik, green, 9,222 1 " blue, 4,800 2 " rose, 1,200 2 " black, 11,675

'The value of these stamps amounts to 39,772 metallik. The remainders are to be destroyed, viz.:—

metallik, green, 1,218 black, 2,290

'As the manufacture of these stamps by hand was very inconvient, new stamps were issued, of the values of 1, 2, and 4 metallik (4 metallik=1 grossion). These stamps were lithographed in Athens, in six (6) different colors—red, blue, green, violet, orange and yellow. The whole quantity of these stamps was sold for 41,160 metallik, as follows:—

1 metallik, 6 colors, 980 of each = 5,880 met.
2 " " =11,760 " =23,520 "

'As all the stamps of this issue were sold out, we ordered a fresh issue from Athens, which is now in use.

(The book does not contain a description of this new issue.)

'§3. For the purpose of destroying the 1,218 green stamps of 1 metallik, and the 1,290 black of 2 metallik, and also the three (?) dies with which these stamps were struck by hand, and the dies from which were lithographed' (from which the lithographic stones were prepared?) 'in Athens the second and third issue (this is still in use), I appoint a Committee, composed of Lieutenant Selichoff, Director of the provisional Post Office, and Messrs. Nicolas Koronakis, Antonio Trifillis, and Themistocles Pappadakis, with Captain Theophilus Schoiesky as President, to destroy to-morrow, Thursday, 1-13 July, 1899, all these stamps, and they are to furnish me with a report accordingly.

'(Signed) TH. VON CHIOSTAK, Governor.'

"All this seems to show that the stamps were manufactured under regularly constituted authority, and that the remainders and dies were destroyed with due ceremony. It was, however, plainly unuecessary to print each of the three values of the second issue (this is the Trident type without Stars at the sides) in six different colors, and this is sufficient, in our opinion, to throw some doubt upon the legitimacy of the whole affair.

"We are shown some very nice, clean specimens on original envelopes, including a 2 metallik, of the eagle type with inscriptions in Greek, in dull

rose, which is new to us. Also some obliterated copies without incumbrance, and with full gum on the back—but still, postmarking to order does not prove that similar labels may not have been used for legitimate purposes, and it is possible that the Retymno Post Office may have done some work for the many thousand metalliks that it appears to have collected."

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Curacao.—Mr. F. Gregory has shown us a 50c stamp of the king's head type on distinctly ribbed paper.

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FIJI ISLANDS.—Mr. Hagen has shown the Australian Philatelist a 6d of the current issue printed on both sides, and a 2d in a lighter shade of green.

France.—Mr. J. Bernichon informs the London Philatelist that the 5c stamp may be found in blocks containing types I and II. This peculiarity has previously been noted in the 10c stamp, and it has also been reported in the 15c although Mr. Bernichon denies the existence of the last named.

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French Congo.—Mr. A. Lebrou informs us that the new issue is to be placed on sale in a few weeks. The designs are by Paul Merwart and the engravings by Benjamin Damman. The work is in the finest taille douce style, and the set should indeed be an attractive one.

It will be as follows:

Panther at bay.

Watermarked Thistle.

ic violet on pale violet

2c bistre on yellow

4c chestnut on blue

5c green on bright green

roc red on bright red

15c violet on green

Female of the tribe of Bakalois. Watermarked branch of rose tree.

20c green on orange

25c blue on pale blue

30c red on yellow

4oc bistre on green

50c violet on pale violet

75c lilac on orange

Alley of cocoanut trees in Libreville.

Watermarked branch of olive.

1fr mauve on green

2fr bistre on carmine

5fr yellow on blue

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FRENCH OFFICES IN CHINA.—The Monthly Journal has seen the 50c and 5fr stamps surcharged "CHINE" in red. Our contemporary is informed that only three sheets of the lower value and one of the higher were thus overprinted in error.

GREAT BRITAIN—Ewen's Weekly Slamp News states that the new ½d stamp is to be issued on Tuesday, April 17. The new 18h, in two colors, is to follow in midsummer.

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GUATEMALA.—Meekeel's Weekly Stamp News chronicles another provisional for 1900, of the appearance of which, however, we have received no direct confirmation. Our contemporary states that the 5c purple has been surcharged "1 centavo 1900" in red.

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INDIA—The *Philatelic Journal of India* announces the intended issue of ¼ anna stamps for Nabha and Jhind. We presume that the new stamps will consist of the 3 pies red of India with the proper surcharges.

KISHENGARH.--We illustrate the ½ anna and 1 anna stamps chronicled by us last month and also the 1 anna fiscal which was impressed on envelopes.







JAPAN—OFFICES IN COREA,—OFFICES IN CHINA.—In order to show clearly the difference between the surcharge on the stamps of Japan for these two sets of offices we show enlarged reproductions.

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LABUAN.—The London Philatelist has seen a copy of the 4c on 18c with double surcharge of the word "CENTS."

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Malta.—A correspondent of Ewen's Weekly Stamp News furnishes the information that farthing stamps are expected shortly to be placed in use, for the prepayment of the local postage rate on newspapers.

for the prepayment of the local postage rate on newspapers.

It is also stated that the ½ and 1d, and possibly some of the other values, are to have the inscription "POSTAGE AND REVENUE" added.

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Mr. J. B. Robert sends us the following information in regard to the stamps of the Dutch Colonies:

NETHERLANDS.—The 5c Unpaid Letter stamp of 1870 on yellowish paper, to which reference has already been made, is printed on the paper of the 10c unpaid of Netherland Indies and not on that of the 5c.

Durch Indies.—The surcharged stamps were received in Batavia on December 24th, and the respective values will be placed on sale as soon as the stock of the corresponding values of the old type has become exhausted. It is presumed that the values of 25c and 50c will be placed in circulation between the 15th and 20th of January and the 10c some three or four months later, as the supply on hand is estimated at over two millions. The 12½, 2cc and 2½ gulden will probably not be issued until 1901. It is possible that these latter values will never be placed in circulation, as a new type may be provided by that time or else they may again be surcharged with lower values. The 30c, of the Queen type, will remain in circulation.

SURINAM.—The stamps of the King's head type of 40c and 50c, with the surcharge 25c, and those of 1 florin and 2½ florins, with surcharge 50c,

are to be placed on sale on March 7.

All those who desire any of these stamps must deliver their orders at the post office on March 7, between 8 a. m. and 12 m. If the supply on hand should be insufficient to cover all the requirements, the orders will be filled proportionately.

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NICARAGUA.—We show herewith an illustration of the new adhesive stamps of this country, chronicled in our February number.



0 0 0 0 0

NIGERIA.—(Niger Coast Protectorate)

The Philatelic Record is informed that the current stamps of the Niger Coast Protectorate are being overprinted "NIGERIA", in order to mark the transfer of the territory to the control of the imperial government.

0 0 0 0 0

ROUMANIA.—In our February number we chronicled a new surcharge, on the authority of one of our European contemporaries. We are now informed, on the most reliable authority, that no such surcharge has been issued, and collectors will have one variety less to search for.

0 0 0 0 0

ROUMANIA.—Mr. C. Witt informs us on the authority of a correspondent in Bucarest that the 5 bani card is to be withdrawn, as postage on postal cards is to be increased to 10 bani. The remaining stock of 5 bani cards is to be treated to an additional 5 bani stamp at left, increasing the value of the card to 10 bani.

ST. VINCENT.—The Virginia Philatelist reports on the authority of its correspondent in St. Vincent that all the obsolete stamps of that island, with

the exception of the 4d yellow, 6d lilac and 5sh lake, were destroyed on February 12th of this year. The entire quantity thus disposed of is said to have consisted of 309,000 stamps.

0 0 0 0 0

Samos.—The *Timbre Poste* now states that postage stamps for this island will really be issued before long. Our readers may remember that a few years ago an attempt was made to foist certain fancy varieties, purporting to come from Samos, upon the innocent philatelic public, but the attempt miscarried, owing to the vigilance of some of our contemporaries. Mr. Moens appears to be convinced that the stamps now under consideration are a legitimate issue.

The values are to be as follows:

5 parades black on gray blue 10 paras black on gray blue 20 " black on white 1 grosian black on white

The inscriptions read as follows in translation:—"Administration" at right, "Postal" at top, "Interior" at left, "Of Samos" below.

0 0 0 0 0

TRINIDAD.—We are informed by our correspondents in Port of Spain that the 5 pence and 10 shillings stamps of the current issue have been withdrawn from circulation.

0 0 0 0 0

URUGUAY,—We are informed that the Post Office Department has placed an order with Waterlow & Son for four million 5 milesimas stamps, to be printed in the same design as the one issued last year, but in a different color.





UNITED STATES. — Mr. Lewis Robie sends us specimens of two new Proprietary stamps which we list below.

Private die proprietary stamps.

Rouletted.

1 1/4 c rose, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People

2½c carmine, Antikamnia Co.

AUSTRIA.— It appears that the entire set of unpaid letter stamps of the new issue was sold at certain offices in imperforate condition. It is stated by some people that the stamps were sold in this way in order not to delay their issue, and that they were soon replaced by the regular perforated stamps.

We have omitted to chronicle the 3 heller value of the new unpaid

letter stamps.

Unpaid letter stamps.

66

66

Perforated.

3 heller brown

Imperforate.

1 heller brown

2 "

3 " "

4 " "

5 " "

6 " "

10 "

15 " "

20 " "

40 " "

100 "

In addition to the postal cards of the new issue previously announced by us, the *Deutsche Briefmarken* Zeitung has seen the following varieties:

Postal cards.

5 heller blue green (Deutsch.-

Bohmisch.)
5 " (Deutsch.—

Italienisch.)
5 " (Deutsch.—

Rumanisch.)
5 " (Deutsch.—

Ruthenisch.)

"5 " (Deutsch.— Slovenisch.)

5 x 5 " " (Deutsch.—

Illirisch.— Italienisch.)

5 x 5 " (Deutsch.— Rumanisch.)

5 x 5 " (Deutsch.—
Polnisch.—

Ruthenisch.)

Letter cards.

6 heller gray on blue, perf. I

10 " rose on gray, " I

BOSNIA.—Mr. C. Witt has shown us the 5 heller postal card with the new stamp.

Postal card.

5 heller gray green

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.—
The Washington correspondent of the Metropolitan Philatelist reports the issue of a 2sh of the current set, whereas in some of our European contemporaries we find the announcement of

a rosh value in the same tints. We presume that Mr. Bartels has made an error, and we chronicle provisionally the rosh instead of the 2sh.

The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain announces the issue of a new wrapper and a new postal card, with stamp of the current design.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked Crown and C. C. Perforated.

rosh olive and black

Wrapper.

1p carmine, manila paper

Postal card.

1/2p green, white

BRITISH GUIANA.—The Metropolitan Philatelist announces a change in color of the 2c value, from lilac and orange to lilac and rose.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked Crown and C. A. Perforated 14.

ac lilac and rose

CAROLINE ISLANDS.—We have seen specimens of German stamps surcharged for use in this colony. Adhesive stamps.



Perforated.
Black surcharge.
3pf brown
5pf green
2opf ultramarine
25pf orange
5opf red brown

Postal cards.

5pf green 1opf carmine

10 x 10pf carmine

CHINA.—One of our correspondents sends us specimens of the 5c stamp printed in orange, instead of salmon. This is not an error, but an intentional change in color.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked a Shell. Perforated 14 to 15.

5c orange

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC. — We have just received a new provisional, issued in Cucuta by the provisional or revolutionary government.

Adhesive stamp.
Provisional issue.
Perforated.
5c black on pink

Panama.—A new registration stamp of the value of ten centavos has just appeared, and from the crudity of the design we should judge that the issue can only be intended as a provisional one.

Registration stamp.



Perforated 12.

COREA.—The Timbre Poste has been informed by Mr. Gainsborg that the current issue of stamps has received a surcharge in Corean characters, signifying Empire of Corea. This is to correct the inscription on the stamps, which reads "Kingdom of Corea."

Adhesive stamps.

Provisional issue.

Red surcharge.

10p deep blue

25p brown carmine

50p red purple

CRETE.—The new issue, the appearance of which was heralded in our February number, has just reached our hands. The stamps are handsome specimens of engraving, and the

set shows six different designs. All values have been issued except the 5 drachme, which is to appear somewhat later. The values from 25 lepta up are surcharged with the Greek equivalent of the word PROVISIONAL.

Adhesive stamps.









Perforated 14.
11 violet brown (Hermes)

51 green (Juno)

101 red (Prince George) 201 carmine rose (Juno)

251 blue, red surcharge (Prince George)

50 l violet, red surcharge (Hermes)
1dr gray violet " (Tallos)
2dr yellow brown " (Minos)

pominioan REPUBLIC.—We have received the four higher values of the Commemorative issue, as follows:—The 20 centavos, representing Toscanelli replying to Columbus; 50 centavos, Las Casas defending the Indians; 1 peso, Columbus in the Junta of Salamanca; and 2 pesos, Mausoleum of Columbus in the Cathedral of San Domingo.

Adhesive stamps.









Perforated.

20c purple brown

50c yellow green

1p black on lavender

2p bistre brown

ECUADOR.—A number of our contemporaries announce the completion of the set of official stamps, all values being printed in orange.

Official stamps.
Perforated.
Black surcharge.
Ic orange

5c "
I sucre orange
5 sucres "

French Offices in Alexandria.-In addition to the adhesives chronicled by us, the Monthly Journal has received an envelope, a postal card and and a letter card.

Envelope.

5c yellow green, white laid paper, red surcharge

Postal card.

roc black, greenish, red surcharge

Letter card. 25c black, rose, red surcharge

GERMANY .- The Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung has received specimens of the high values of the new series. From the illustrations shown by our contemporary, we should judge that the stamps present a handsome appearance. The designs are the following: 1 mark, Imperial Post Office at Berlin; the 2 marks stamp appears to represent two representatives of old German tribes swearing eternal friendship, the inscription reading: "Be United, United, United;" the 3 marks stamp shows the unveiling of the equestrian statue of Emperor William I., at Berlin; the 5 marks stamp appears to represent the coronation of William II., with inscription below, "One Empire, One People, One God."

Mr. C. Witt has shown us a pneumatic envelope of 30 pfennig, with

stamp of the new type.

Adhesive stamps. Perforated 111/2. im carmine rose

2m blue

3m violet black

5m carmine, frame black

Pneumatic envelope.

Size 125x82mm. 3opf dark blue on pink

German Offices in Morocco. - In addition to the surcharged German adhesive stamps chronicled in our February number, the London Philatelist has received specimens of four German postal cards bearing similar surcharges.

Postal cards.

5c on 5pf green

5 x 5c " 5 x 5pf green 10c " 10pf carmine

10 x 10c " 10 x 10pf carmine

GOLD COAST .- The Washington correspondent of the Metropolitan Philatelist reports a change in color of the 5 and 10sh stamps. He does not mention the character of the design, and we presume that the new stamps are in the latest type.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked Crown and C. A. Perforated 14.

5sh green and mauve rosh green and brown

HONG KONG .- According to the Metropolitan Philatelist a 2c wrapper has been issued here, this being the first wrapper to appear in this colony.

Wrapper.

2c green

HUNGARY,-In addition to the new values chronicled in the earlier numbers of this JOURNAL, the Monthly Journal has received several other postal cards and letter cards bearing stamps of the new design,

Postal cards.

4 x 4h rose, green 10h brown, buff Letter cards. 6f yellow green, gray

10f orange, gray

ICELAND.—The current series has been increased by the addition of a 4 aur stamp, in the current design.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated 121/2. Watermarked Crown.

4a rose and gray

Bussahir.—We have received the ¼ anna stamp from this State, with the new perforation, concerning which we have a note in the JOURNAL of last November, and also the 1 anna red, imperforate.

Adhesive stamps.



Perforated.

¼a red, blue surcharge
Imperforate.

1a red, blue surcharge

Dhar.—We have just received a new stamp of 1/4 anna in the current type.

Adhesive stamp.
Imperforate.
% a orange red

Kishengarh.—In or chronicle in the March number of this Journal we mention the ½ anna dull purple ple. This is as it appears in the Philatelic Jaurnal of India. An examination of the stamp shows it to be I anna and we therefore chronicle this value.

Adhesive stamp. Imperf. I anna dull purple

JAPAN.—The Washington correspondent of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* announces the appearance of a 3 sen envelope, with stamp of the current type.

Envelope.

LABUAN.—The 2 and 5c stamps have appeared in new colors, the design remaining the same as before.

Adhesive stamps.
Perforated.
2c yellow green
5c light blue

LIBERIA.—Several of our contemporaries announce alterations in the colors of the lowest three values of the stamps of this country, both in the regular and official issues.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.

2c black and vermilion

5c black and blue Official stamps.

Perforated.

ic dull green, red surcharge ac black and vermilion, black surcharge

5c black and blue, red surcharge

MARIANNA ISLANDS. — We have received the German stamps of old design with surcharge for the Marianna Islands, which were recently acquired from Spain.

Adhesive stamps.



Black surcharge.
3pf brown
5pf green
1opf carmine
2opf ultramarine
25pf orange
5opf red brown

MOROCCO.—Another new post is announced by the *Timbre Poste*, namely, one operating between Mogador and Agadir. The central design consists of a lion and flag, enclosed in an upright oval containing the inscriptions; stars in upper corners.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated 14.
5c yellow green and red
10c ultramarine and red
20c claret and red
25c violet and red
40c yellow brown and red
50c brown and red
1 peseta greenish gray and red

NEW CALEDONIA.—The Australian Philatelist has received from Mr. Hagen specimens of the two new surcharges, viz:—4c surcharged "15c". The surcharges are as follows:—"N. C. E." in ornamental type and large figure "5" in black, on the 4c; "N. C. E." in Roman capitals and "15" in a single-line circle in black, on the 3oc.

As usual, both varieties appear with normal and inverted surcharge.

We have received the 5c stamp of this Colony in the new shade.

Adhesive stamp.
Perf. 14 x 13½.
5c yellow green
Perforated 14x13½.
15c on 4c claret, lavender
15c on 3oc brown, bistre

NORTH BORNEO.—As in Labuan, the 2 and 5c stamps have changed in hue.

Adhesive stamps.
Perforated.
2c yellow green
5c light blue

PUERTO RICO.—We have just discovered in our stock a 20c stamp of the issue of 1882, printed in the color of the 80c. This is a variety which has not been chronicled in any work on the stamps of the Spanish Colonies, and if any of our readers can give any further information in regard to it we would greatly appreciate it.

Adhesive stamp.
Perforated.
20c olive, 1882 issue, error

SALVADOR.—We have just received the 1c stamp of 1898 surcharged "1900" in sans serif numerals.

Adhesive stamp,
Provisional issue,
Ic orange vermilion, black surcharge

SAMOA.—Mr. Hagen informs the Australian Philatelist that the 2sh 6d has also been surcharged "2½d" in black.

Adhesive stamp,
Provisional issue.
Watermarked Star.
Perforated.
Black surcharge.
2½p on 2sh 6p mauve

SEYCHELLES.—The Washington correspondent of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* has seen four new values in the current type.

Adhesive stamps. Watermarked Crown and C. A. Perforated 14.

6c rose

75c yellow and violet 1r 50c gray and red 2r 25c green and brown red

SOMALI COAST.—The 40c value has appeared in new colors.

Adhesive stamp.

Imperf.
Quadrille paper.
40c orange, center blue

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS (Federated Malay States).—It was announced some time ago that it was the intention of the Post Office authorities to withdraw the stamps of the separate states, and to issue in their stead one series which would serve all the purposes hitherto served by the stamps issued for account of the various independent states. The first step in that direction appears to have been taken by surcharging certain values of Negri Sembilan with the words "Federated—Malay States" and a bar over "Negri Sembilan."

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked Crown and C. A. Perforated.

Black surcharge.

On Negri Sembilan.

1c lilac and green

2c lilac and brown

3c lilac and carmine

25c lilac and carmine

The Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung adds a number of surcharged varieties to those reported by our other contemporary.

On Negri Sembilan.

5c lilac and ochre 20c green and olive 50c green and black

On Perak.

\$1 green and yellow green

\$2 green and carmine

\$5 green and ultramarine

\$25 green and ochre

SURINAM.—We have just been informed that early in March a number of provisional stamps were placed on the market, the varieties consisting of old stamps with the King's head surcharged with new values. None of those advised to us agree with the surcharges announced in Europe, sample specimens of which had been sent out in advance by the Colonial Office in The Hague to the Postal Union.

The quantities issued as reported

to us are as follows:

50c on 2g 50c 3,261 50c " 1g 9,459 25c " 50c 86,795 25c " 40c 57,163

Adhesive stamps.

Provisional issue. Perforated.

25c on 4oc lilac

25c on 5oc orange

50c " 1g gray and brown

50c " 2g 50c green and orange

TRINIDAD.—The Monthly Journal announces a 3 pence unpaid letter stamp, made by surcharging the 3d fiscal stamp with the words "Surcharge Postage" in black.

The Metropolitan Philatelist reports a change in color of the current 5sh stamp from green and orange to mauve.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked Crown and C. A.

5sh mauve

Unpaid letter stamp.

Perforated.

3p lilac revenue stamp, black surcharge

VENEZUELA.—Mr. W. F. Gregory has shown us a 5c Escuelas stamp of the 1893 issue, bearing the same surcharge as was used on the postage stamps, and which we chronicled a few months ago. We presume that the entire set has been issued in this way and we give the list below.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.

5c gray

ioc green

25c blue

50c orange

1b violet

3b red

10b violet

20b red brown

WURTEMBERG. — According to the *Timbre Poste*, two new values have appeared in the current type.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated. 30pf orange and black 40pf claret and black

Staten Island Philatelic Society.

BRANCH OF A. P. A.

Meetings held on the third Tuesday of each month at 8 o'clock, p. m., at Menstell's Hotel, 36 Canal Street, Stapleton, Staten Island, N. Y. President, J. W. Sittig: Secretary, Robert S. Lehman.

For information, address the Secretary, No. 341 East 30th Street, New York City. Communications relating to exchange matters, address to Eugene Angell, 149 East 15th Street, New York City. Communications relating to examination of stamps, address to Henry Clotz, Box 999, New York City.

The 200th meeting of the Staten Island Philatelic Society was held at

Stapleton, S. I., on Tuesday evening Feb, 20th, 1900 at 8:30 p, m.

Members present at roll call: Messrs. J. W. Sittig, O. Dejonge, A. R. Richter, E. Angell, H. Kessler, E. R. Carter President Sittig in the chair. In the absence of the secretary, Mr. E. R. Carter was appointed as Secre-

The reading of the minutes of the last meeting was dispensed with. The resignation of Mr. A. Lohmeyer was accepted with regrets.

The society having learned with deep sorrow of the death of our late member Mr. C. P. Krauth, a committe of two was appointed by the chair (Messrs. R. S. Lehman and O. Dejonge) to draft resolutions and report same at next meeting.

Mr. P. G. Tessier presented the Society with a 5c Newfoundland current issue; the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences presents the 11th Year Book, also, the prospectus of the next exhibition of stamps; all of which were accepted with thanks.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p. m.

After the meeting Mr. O. Dejonge exhibited his fine collection of Holland and colonies. The exchange manager submitted to the members a choice lot of circuits. E. R. CARTER, Secretary pro tem.

Birmingham Philatelic Society.

January 4th, 1900.

Messrs. Preston Lumb and E. Rizzo were unanimously elected members. Mr. W. Pimm displayed his collection of British North America, and gave an amusing commentary on the varieties which needed any such explanation.

February 1.

Messrs J. Thackrah, A. Saatdjian and A. de Meester were unanimously elected members.

Mr. G. Johnson then gave his paper on the Stamps of Egypt, illustrating

it by his collection.

The two types of each value of the first issue were explained and illustrated; imperfs, of this issue and imperfs, between vertically and horizontally of the 1867 issue were shown. The 1872-75 issue was arranged so as to show the varieties of perf., simple and compound, certain values being unknown in some of the perfs. The arrangement of the sheet in the case of the socalled "5 paras with inverted center," was shown by means of a small chart.

Mr. W. T. Wilson also showed an exceptionally fine lot, including such

desirable stamps as the high values of the first issue used; the various inverted surcharges; a block of 9 of the 2 1/2 piastres of the 1872 issue with the center stamp inverted.

A subsequent discussion on the 5 piastres 1886 (no watermark), which is being offered from certain foreign sources at high prices, brought out the general idea that it was a proof with faked perforations.

The Collectors Club.

351 FOURTH AVENUE,

NEW YORK,

The 51st meeting of the Board of Governors, was held at the Club House on Monday, March 12, 1900.

Present: Messrs. Bruner, Calman, Luff, O'Donohue, Perrin, Scott and

President Bruner called the meeting to order at 8.20 P. M.

The Secretary read a number of communications and reported having replied to all, and also reported having mailed a copy of the printed Annual Report to each member.

The monthly report of the Treasurer showing a cash balance of \$605.01, exclusive of U. S. bonds was read and approved

Mr. Luff's report of the House Committee was accepted.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Secretary notify all members in arrears, calling their attention to Section 4, of the By-Laws.

A vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. John N. Luff for his generous donation to the Club of seven volumes of "Filatelic Facts and Fallacies."

The names of six applicants for membership having been posted the required length of time, their names were balloted upon, and Messrs. Bitar, Catrevas, Bronson, Herzog, M'Lellan and Smith were declared to have been unanimously elected subscribing members of the Club.

The following applications for membership were received and posted on

the bulletin board:

Wm. J. Battin, West Troy, N. Y.

Subscribing member. Proposed by P. F. Bruner. Seconded by John N. Luff.

Percy G. Doane, 342 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Subscribing member. Proposed by P. F. Bruner. Seconded by Alex.

W. E. Hawkins, 243 Canal Street, City.

Subscribing member. Proposed by John W. Scott, Seconded by W. S. Scott.

Z. G. Stebbins, Chicago, Ill.

Subscribing member. Proposed by W. F. Gregory. Seconded by John N. Luff.

Adjourned at 9.30 P. M.

ALBERT PERRIN, Secrectary.

